

Recd May 2⁵
Ans^d Sept. 8.
1857.

LIVERTON
APR 15
1857
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Rev^d S. May. jun^r.

21 Cornhill.

Boston

United States.

(S. & S. letter, sent to Standard.)

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CENTS

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ms. B. 1.6 v. 6. p. 54

England

(54 Rodney Street) Liverpool, April 15th 1857

Widdowater, Eng. have sent to
the Anti-Slavery Bazaar during
several years.

(My dear Mr. May)

I feel that you will not be surprised at my long
silence when you remember that with all my house-
hold goods & family I have ^{had to} ~~had to~~ removed from Bridg-
water to this place; & sever the ~~fixed~~ ties which bound
me to my old home there, & to enter upon new duties
& new avocations here. - You Americans, unless we
are deceived in the accounts which we have of you,
are very much more easily moved from place to place
than we, & I can assure you, it has been no trifling
affair to me. - The truth of the matter is, I have been so
engaged with home affairs that I have been unable to
give much time or thought to the cause. - Not that it
has been forgotten; with loving heart has I looked
at the papers as week by week the Steamers came,
to look for the signs of the breaking day, and week by
week, has the night seemed only growing darker
and darker, and hope has grown weaker & weaker.
To see the decision in that fearful Dred Scott
case, is an awful blow to freedom. - Not that it
surprises me; for I have long regarded the whole of
the United States territory, whether called slave or free

as differing very slightly, but I do confess that
I am surprised and pained as well, to see nothing
doing, now that the truth is known, and an
official announcement has been made that
there is "no free soil under the stars & stripes"

The old blood of the Pilgrim Fathers and of their
worthy descendants of Revolutionary days
is thinned & diluted indeed in the present
generation! I have been privileged to know
some of your Countrymen who seemed moulded
in firm noble energy to represent their views
with burning heart, have I listened to the eloquence
with which they appealed to the noblest sentiments
of humanity in behalf of the down-trodden and
the slave; - I look across the ocean, and listen
for the indignant burst of a nation's wrath
responsive to these men; but it is in vain:
no answer comes, and the cold apathy
of the Free States rushes us here into despondency.
~~Criticism of the present movement would be~~
~~useless~~ I do not see how the struggle between
freedom and slavery is to end without

an awful strife, but much more awful is the
calm carelessness of the present age. - It reveals
such a depth of practical Atheism; such a
depth of faith in Mammon & Comfort, that
my mind is unable to fathom. - How, amid
such scenes, you and the devoted band with
whom you work sustain your courage and
uphold your spirits is to me marvellous.
We owe you a debt of untold gratitude, for
you teach us faith, and encourage us to hope
against hope; for, while God reigns in Heaven
above, such faith as yours cannot be overcome.
It would seem as if your nation in fiery thought
its Gethsemane, and Calvary, Death and
Gloom are heavily hanging over you. - Would that
the Sabbath were past, and that at last the
humble and pure spirit of American freedom
could rise from the tomb, the heavy stone of
slavery rolled away by ~~the~~ angels from our
sight. - Would that we in England could
help you. - Our prayers you have, our best

and warmest good wishes. - Sure we cannot
send, but there we do with earnest hearts.
[Mr. S. modestly makes no reference to the ^{valuable} aid which kept his friends
I have had the pleasure, since living here, of
seeing Mr. Poole several times. I made his
acquaintance at our meetings to Anti-Slavery
Congress some years ago, and respect him as an
earnest lover of humanity. With Mr. Channing
I have had some interesting conversations, & we
are to have, soon, I hope, a conference. I like
copies of the Constitutional Question together.

and now, with sincerest & most affectionate
remembrance from my wife to our good friends,
Mr. Chapman, Mr. Follen, Miss Pugh, Parker
Pittsburg, Milner H. Kim, Wesley Brown,
and all your other coadjutors, whom we know
only by their deeds.

I am, most truly & faithfully,

Yours, S. Alfred Steinthal

Steinthal.

P.S.
Will you be so kind as to order the papers to be directed
in future to me at No 59 Rodney Street Liverpool.
I have sent to Mr. Webb my subscription for the Standard
the Liberator, & the European, (which I admire very much
indeed). S.A.S.